

# EXCALIBUR

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### Library cut by \$235,000 layoffs likely

By CARL STIEREN

Fifteen staff members in Scott Library may be laid off this year because of budget cuts for 1973-74, according to library sources. How many will be dismissed in each department is something library department heads will decide in their responses to the tentative library budget. The final plan, including layoffs, should be released Monday.

A hesitant confirmation of the layoffs came from William Newman, associate director for planning and development in Scott library, who refused to deny or confirm the plans outright. According to Newman, the 15 "could be" laid off unless other contingency funds or plans appeared soon.

Scott library's budget, as proposed by York's co-ordinating committee in the draft budget, was \$3,670,000 — nearly seven per cent less than the original amount budgeted for 1972-73. Because of the Ontario government's policy of financing universities according to the number of student units, or BIU's, the university budget was cut, and the library's along with it.

The library, however, has many fixed expenses which must be met in order to function properly, even with a smaller than expected number of new students. For the acquisitions department, the average cost per book from American publishers rose from \$8.77 in 1967-69 to \$13.25 in 1971. According to a trade survey also quoted by Newman, the average cost of inter-library loans was \$2.12 for each unfilled request and \$4.67 for each filled request.

Despite his statement that "we're not going to roll over and play dead" in face of the provincial government's decreased grant of funds to the university, Newman could give no specific plan to raise the \$235,000 cutback or to save the 15 jobs.

The new budget cutbacks for the library come in the wake of recent decreases in library staff and services, as well as rising costs. There are seven fewer employees in cataloging, three fewer in acquisitions, with three more to leave and no replacements slated. While these moves mean a greater work load for the remaining staff, they also point to an even longer processing time before new books will get onto the shelves.

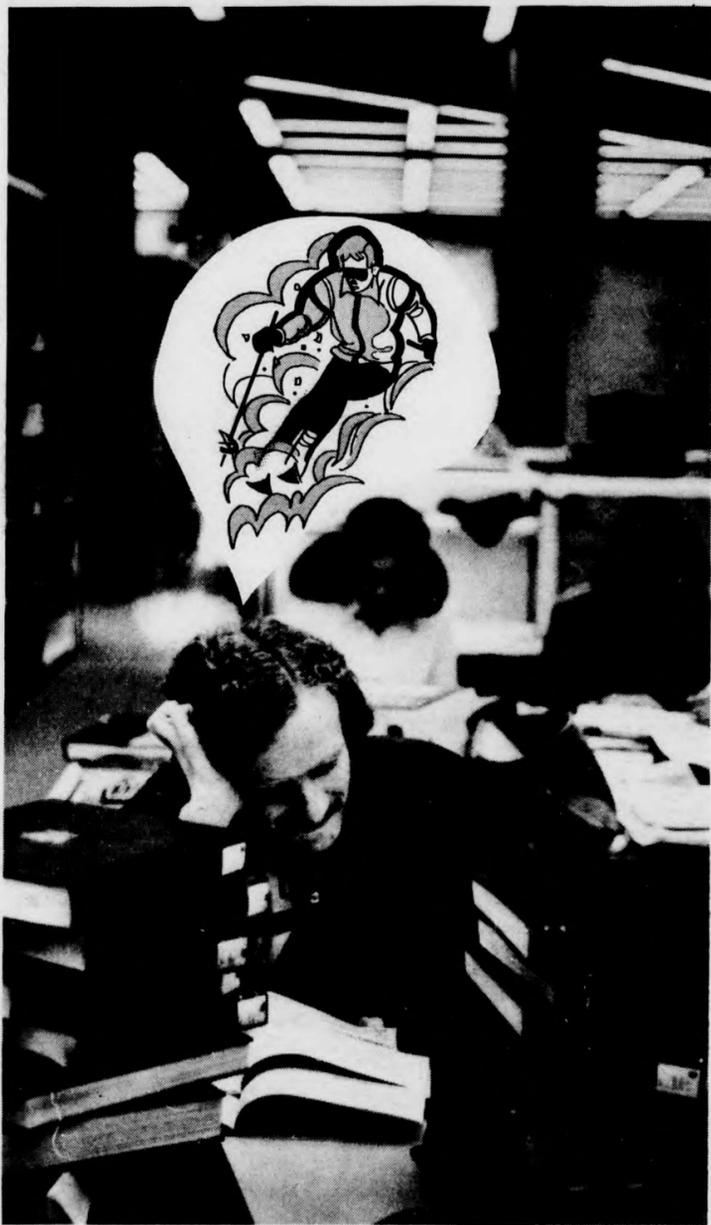
There is only one person now at the circulation desk in the evenings, which means that queues for check-outs every night are inevitable. When Scott library was built, there were three evening staff members at the circulation desk. Some have suggested that two evening staffers were cut to make the cutbacks less noticeable, since Atkinson students are not in the library as often as others.

The pressure has been intense on many staff members because of the increased work load, especially in circulation.

"The evenings are the worst," said one senior staff member, who has to work the check-out machine, answer the phone, check the circulation lists for books requested, and handle user complaints at the same time.

One staff member has already suffered a nervous breakdown and is

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Is there any place you'd rather be?

### Staff association sits on search committee

By SHELLI HUNTER

The demand for greater representation on university committees was the issue last week when senate voted to allow the staff association a position on the committee searching for a new York president.

After two hours of haggling, senate decided the search committee membership will consist of two members of the board of governors, three professors from senate, two students and one staff association member.

Originally the plans presented by the senate executive had not included a position for the staff association. But some senators felt that the staff association plays a large role with the York community and should be represented. (The staff association represents 1,400 members of the York community including secretaries, typists, stenographers and library personnel.)

The rationale behind the long discussion about the committee representation lay in a concern over the size of such an important group. The smaller the better was the general consensus.

Arguments over the size and type of membership on the committee left many other important recommendations by both the senate

executive committee and the board executive committee up in the air.

These committees jointly recommended that the names of 20 to 25 candidates be submitted along with comments from members of the university community. From this long list the search committee would choose three potential candidates for approval by both the senate and the board.

Senate will convene tonight to discuss these and other issues.

### Mouritsen is president-elect

## Election results are very close

Election results are in. The winner — Michael Mouritsen a third year history student.

President-elect Mouritsen won the Council of York Student Federation election by 434 votes just narrowly ahead of Dale Ritch who received 414 votes. Robert Ashton trailed in third with 256 votes.

Only 1,137 students voted, about 10 per cent of the full-time York population. Only 40 Atkinson students voted. The low turnout was blamed on the low-keyed campaigning and the growing disinterest in student politics.

Two candidates supported by Mouritsen were elected to council — Jeffrey Babcock representing Vanier college and Brenda Englehardt representing Founders.

Nine members of the United Left Slate were elected: Ted Kapusta — Vanier; Gwen Mahoney — Vanier; Bob Sharf — Stong; Lisa Ursa — Founders; Danny Di Felice — McLaughlin; Greg Thompson — Winters; John Rocca

— Calumet; Wally Gustar — Atkinson; Ron Rosenthal — Atkinson.

Five independents were elected including: David Clements — Stong; Bill Cook — Stong; Bill Eggertson — McLaughlin; Steve Banks — Founders.

John Theobald, current CYSF president, ran for councillor in Stong, won unofficially but his status as a student member of the college is in dispute. Theobald is a paid full-time president and takes one course. If the chief returning officer, Kevin Anstey, rules he is a member of Stong, then ULS candidate Sharf will lose his seat.

Total cost for the election — \$900; \$400 for salaries for 18 people who worked on the election and \$500 for an election extra edition of Excalibur.

Both referendum votes passed with 821 students supporting the proposal for a student centre and 599 in favour of York joining the National Union of Students.

### 5 men suspended in overtime hassle strike still pending

By TOM (BLUE) SIMON

Thirty York maintenance workers stopped work and later walked off their jobs last Thursday after five of their colleagues were suspended for failing to agree immediately to a request to work overtime.

Saturday night the men voted to return to work after a tentative agreement was reached between national CUPE representative, Jack Bird and Don Mitchell, York's head of personnel. The workers felt that they had won their point "on a matter of principle" and didn't want to endanger last minute contract negotiations planned for today.

The workers believed the requested overtime work was part of management's plan in preparation for a possible strike beginning Monday and that the suspensions were an act of intimidation. On Feb. 11, 238 York maintenance workers, members of Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) local 1356, voted to strike Monday unless a settlement is reached before then. At present, the union and the university are deadlocked over 33 bargaining points.

The overtime work in dispute Thursday was preventative maintenance usually accorded secondary priority as regular work is behind. The workers have said they will only work overtime in emergencies while contract negotiations continue.

The union is asking for a \$1 across-the-board wage hike and 100 per cent paid benefits, giving them a comparable contract to North York school board workers. Male cleaners now get \$3.50 an hour women housemaids \$3 and tradespeople between \$4.50 and \$5.90.

The university is offering a six per cent increase to cover both wage and benefit increases.

#### UNION DEMANDS

The union is also seeking plant-wide seniority to protect job security. The administration wants classification seniority to give them leeway to lay off junior people in any category they declare overstaffed.

The union also wants to prohibit the use of non-union labour in any campus building. The old contract only covered existing buildings, leaving the administration free to determine how to handle maintenance in new buildings.

The issue of voluntary overtime was not a bargaining point and it's now too late to add it to new contract negotiations.

After learning of the suspensions, the 30 men present at the university's physical plant unanimously decided to stop work until the five were reinstated.

When the men stopped work, acting superintendent John Taylor told them, "We are not paying you to stand around. Go back to work or go home." One man replied for the 30: "We have to go home."

Although union officials felt the university had no legal right to suspend the five, they asked the workers not to walk out. The men insisted they had to support the suspended workers.

Union officials and management representatives began meeting at 2 p.m. Thursday in an attempt to resolve the matter, and negotiations went on through Sunday.

#### WILDCAT CLAIMS

Thursday night Taylor informed the five suspended workers by phone that they could report in the morning — the suspensions were off — although negotiations were actually stalemated at that time. When the union and management met Friday — Mitchell said the suspensions were lifted and he felt the rest of the men were on a wildcat strike. He also suggested that management participation in the contract negotiations was dependent on a settlement of the overtime dispute.

Although the men went back to work Sunday they were angry because a clause defining overtime as voluntary (agreed to by Bird and Mitchell Saturday night) was not included, in the letter they received. The agreement did state: "no further action shall be taken and no discipline imposed or recorded." The workers lose two days' pay.

Students are organizing a strike support committee and are meeting Sunday noon in the student union JCR in Glendon Hall at Glendon. A main campus meeting will follow.